

1724 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009
(202) 234-5570

Interviews: 1007 adults
Dates: July 24-26, 1999

48 Male
52 Female
[109]

FINAL

Study #4099
NBC/Wall Street Journal
July 1999

Please note: all results are shown as percentages unless otherwise stated.

1. All in all, do you think things in the nation are generally headed in the right direction, or do you feel that things are off on the wrong track?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>High</u> <u>2/91+</u>	<u>Low</u> <u>7/92+</u>	
Right direction.....	50	42	46	54	49	47	65	14	[138]
Wrong track.....	32	41	40	33	38	38	22	71	
Mixed (VOL).....	15	14	11	10	10	12	9	9	
Not sure.....	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	6	
		<u>10/98</u>	<u>9/98</u>	<u>7/98</u>	<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>			
		+							
		55	51	45	45	50			
		31	35	39	39	35			
		12	11	13	13	12			
		2	3	3	3	3			

+ Asked only of registered voters.

- 2a. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job Bill Clinton is doing as president?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>High</u> <u>1/99</u>	<u>Low</u> <u>10/98</u>	<u>6/93</u>	
Approve.....	63	58	58	66	68	65	68	68	41	[139]
Disapprove.....	32	37	36	31	29	31	29	29	50	
Not sure.....	5	5	6	3	3	4	3	3	9	
		<u>10/98+</u>	<u>9/98</u>	<u>7/98</u>	<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>				
		68	66	64	63	66				
		29	31	30	30	29				
		3	3	6	7	5				

+ Asked only of registered voters.

2b. Do you generally approve or disapprove of the job Bill Clinton is doing in handling the economy?

	<u>7/99*</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>High</u> <u>1/99</u>	<u>Low</u> <u>7/93</u>	<u>9/94</u>	
Approve.....	73	71	73	74	78	72	78	40	40	[140]
Disapprove.....	20	21	18	20	17	21	17	51	51	
Not sure.....	7	8	9	6	5	7	5	9	9	
		<u>10/98+</u>	<u>9/98</u>	<u>7/98</u>	<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>				
		74	75	69	70	76				
		21	19	23	22	16				
		5	6	8	8	8				

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

+ Asked only of registered voters.

2c. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job Bill Clinton is doing in handling our foreign policy?

	<u>7/99**</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>High</u> <u>10/98+</u>	<u>Low</u> <u>9/94</u>	
Approve.....	54	50	50	60	65	61	70	32	[141]
Disapprove.....	37	41	41	31	28	30	26	60	
Not sure.....	9	9	9	9	7	9	4	8	
		<u>10/98+</u>	<u>9/98</u>	<u>7/98</u>	<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>			
		70	63	58	53	63			
		26	29	31	36	27			
		4	8	11	11	10			

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

+ Asked only of registered voters.

3. I'm going to read you the names of several public figures and institutions, and I'd like you to rate your feelings toward each one as either very positive, somewhat positive, neutral, somewhat negative, or very negative. If you don't know the name, please just say so.

	Very Positive	Somewha t Positive	Neutral	Somewha t Negative	Very Negative	Don't Know Name/ Not Sure	
Bill Clinton							[142]
July 1999.....	23	27	14	14	22	-	
June 1999.....	19	25	12	15	28	1	
April 1999.....	23	23	14	13	26	1	
March 1999.....	23	25	14	11	27	-	
January 1999.....	27	24	12	11	25	1	
December 1998.....	25	26	13	10	26	-	
October 1998+.....	25	26	10	12	26	1	
September 1998.....	18	22	17	14	29	-	
July 1998.....	24	26	17	15	18	-	
June 1998.....	24	30	14	12	20	-	
April 1998.....	27	29	13	11	19	1	
<i>High</i>							
January 1993.....	33	31	15	9	7	5	
<i>Low</i>							
September 1998.....	18	22	17	14	29	-	
Hillary Rodham Clinton							[143/149]
July 1999.....	25	23	18	12	20	2	
June 1999.....	25	22	17	13	22	1	
April 1999.....	30	19	17	12	20	2	
March 1999.....	35	19	16	11	18	1	
January 1999.....	35	23	16	11	14	1	
December 1998.....	33	21	17	11	17	1	
October 1998+.....	32	24	15	12	16	1	
September 1998.....	29	21	20	12	18	-	
July 1998.....	22	24	25	13	14	2	
June 1998.....	26	22	21	11	19	1	
April 1998.....	26	25	19	13	16	1	
<i>High</i>							
January 1999.....	35	23	16	11	14	1	
<i>Low</i>							
May 1996+.....	14	20	19	17	27	3	

+ Asked only of registered voters.

Q.3 (cont'd)

	Very Positive	Somewha t Positive	Neutral	Somewha t Negative	Very Negative	Don't Know Name/ Not Sure	
Al Gore							[144/150]
July 1999.....	13	27	26	16	15	3	
June 1999	15	23	27	16	15	4	
April 1999.....	11	24	30	14	17	4	
March 1999.....	16	23	29	16	14	2	
January 1999.....	17	24	29	15	12	3	
December 1998.....	17	25	27	13	15	3	
September 1998.....	16	25	32	12	13	2	
July 1998.....	16	26	31	12	13	2	
June 1998.....	18	26	31	10	13	2	
April 1998.....	16	29	29	12	11	3	
February 1998.....	18	29	27	12	11	3	
High							
January 1993.....	23	32	22	9	6	8	
Low							
December 1997.....	13	23	28	14	18	4	
George W. Bush							[145/151]
July 1999.....	22	31	26	9	6	6	
June 1999	23	27	25	9	8	8	
April 1999.....	23	32	25	8	6	6	
March 1999.....	25	26	28	5	5	11	
December 1998.....	25	28	27	5	4	11	
September 1997.....	9	19	32	9	6	25	
HMOs—or health maintenance organizations							[146/152]
July 1999.....	6	15	17	25	31	6	
July 1998	6	13	23	25	25	8	
Jesse Ventura							[147]
July 1999 *.....	12	24	29	11	6	18	
December 1998	11	16	27	5	4	37	
Ted Kennedy							[148]
July 1999 *.....	18	25	27	13	13	4	
October 1997.....	6	14	28	18	29	5	
May 1991.....	8	18	21	22	27	4	
Steve Forbes							[153]
July 1999 **.....	4	20	33	12	5	26	
March 1996.....	6	19	26	17	15	17	
January 1996.....	4	15	21	5	5	50	
December 1995.....	2	10	24	5	3	56	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

Q.3 (cont'd)

	Very Positive	Somewha t Positive	Neutral	Somewha t Negative	Very Negative	Don't Know Name/ Not Sure	
Bill Bradley							[154]
July 1999 **.....	8	25	28	5	3	31	
April 1999	8	20	27	5	2	38	
March 1999.....	11	19	26	5	1	38	
September 1995.....	7	17	22	7	1	46	
Tom DeLay							[155]
July 1999 **.....	2	7	19	3	4	65	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

4a. In general, do you approve or disapprove of the job Congress is doing?

	<u>7/99**</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>10/98+</u>	<u>High</u> <u>9/98</u>	<u>Low</u> <u>10/90+</u>	
Approve.....	43	40	49	41	50	44	48	61	22	[156]
Disapprove.....	41	42	38	45	40	42	39	28	69	
Not sure.....	16	18	13	14	10	14	13	11	9	
		<u>9/98</u>	<u>7/98</u>	<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>	<u>2/98</u>				
		61	53	48	51	57				
		28	31	37	34	29				
		11	16	15	15	14				

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

+ Asked only of registered voters.

4b. How would you rate the overall performance and accomplishments of this year's Congress--one of the best, above average, average, below average, or one of the worst?

	<u>7/99**</u>	<u>12/97</u>	<u>12/95</u>	<u>10/94</u>	<u>10/91</u>	<u>10/90</u>	
One of the best.....	1	2	7	1	1	1	[157]
Above average.....	12	11	18	6	5	7	
Average.....	53	56	33	46	45	39	
Below average.....	25	22	24	28	32	32	
One of the worst.....	7	6	16	16	14	19	
Not sure.....	2	3	2	3	3	2	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

+ Asked only of registered voters.

- 4c. What is your preference for the outcome of the November 2000 congressional elections -- a Congress controlled by Republicans or a Congress controlled by Democrats? ¹

	<u>7/99*</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>10/98+</u>	<u>9/98</u>	<u>7/98</u>	<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>	
Republican-controlled Congress. .	39	42	41	37	41	40	41	39	37	[158]
Democrat-controlled Congress.....	43	41	40	43	43	39	40	40	41	
Not sure ²	18	17	19	20	16	21	19	21	22	
	<u>2/98</u>	<u>1/98</u>	<u>12/97</u>	<u>9/97</u>	<u>7/97</u>	<u>4/97</u>	<u>1/96</u>	<u>12/95</u>	<u>10/94</u>	
	41	40	41	41	45	44	41	42	44	
	37	42	37	39	39	38	38	41	38	
	22	18	22	20	16	18	21	17	18	

¹ In October 1994, the question referred to the 1994 congressional elections; the 1995 and 1996 survey dates referred to the 1996 congressional elections; the 1997 and 1998 dates refer to the 1998 congressional elections.

² The volunteered responses "both equal," "neither in control," or "doesn't matter," were reported separately; for purposes of comparative they are combined with "not sure."

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

+ Asked only of registered voters.

5. Now, let me read you a list of problems facing the nation. Please tell me which one concerns you the most at the present time. **

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

The breakdown of the family.....	32	[159]
The growing demands on Social Security and Medicare.....	17	>
Poor public schools.....	15	
Crime and drug use.....	13	
High taxes.....	9	
Concerns about an economic recession.....	4	
All (VOL).....	9	
None (VOL).....	1	
Not sure.....	-	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

- 6a. Now I'd like to read you a list of legislative priorities that Congress is working on this year. Please tell me which one you feel is the most important priority for Congress to pass. *

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Dealing with education issues.....	30	[160]
Reforming Medicare.....	20	
Cutting taxes.....	16	
Passing tougher gun-control restrictions.....	14	
Passing a patients' bill of rights.....	9	
All equally important (VOL).....	9	
None important (VOL).....	1	
Not sure.....	1	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

- 6b. Now I'd like to read you a list of legislative priorities and ask whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with how the Congress is dealing with each one. When it comes to **(READ ITEM)**, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with how the Congress is dealing with it? *

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY SATISFIED

	<u>Satisfied</u>	<u>Dissatisfied</u>	<u>Not Sure</u>	
Cutting taxes.....	33	56	11	[163]
Dealing with education issues.....	31	58	11	[166]
Passing tougher gun-control restrictions...	29	64	7	[164]
Passing a patients' bill of rights.....	27	50	23	[165]
Reforming Medicare.....	19	64	17	[161]
Reforming Social Security.....	19	69	12	[162]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

7. Thinking about the current situation in Kosovo, do you think the U.S. involvement in the military conflict was or was not worth it?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	
U.S. involvement worth it.....	53	58	[167]
U.S. involvement not worth it.....	38	33	
Not sure.....	9	9	

8. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Democrat, a Republican, an independent, or something else? **(IF "DEMOCRAT" OR "REPUBLICAN," ASK:)** Would you call yourself a strong (Democrat/Republican) or not a very strong (Democrat/Republican)? **(IF NOT SURE, CODE AS "NOT VERY STRONG DEMOCRAT/REPUBLICAN.")** **(IF "INDEPENDENT," ASK:)** Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party, closer to the Democratic Party, or do you think of yourself as strictly independent? **(IF "NOT SURE," CODE AS "STRICTLY INDEPENDENT.")**

Strong Democrat.....	17		[168]
Not very strong Democrat.....	12	Skip to Q.10a	
Independent/lean Democrat.....	9		
Strictly independent.....	20	Skip to Q.11a	
Independent/lean Republican.....	7		
Not very strong Republican.....	11	CONTINUE	
Strong Republican.....	14		
Other.....	7	Skip to Q.11a	
Not sure/nothing.....	3		

(ASK ONLY OF REPUBLICANS IN Q.8.)

9a. Let me read you a list of people who might seek the Republican nomination for president in the year 2000. If you were voting today in the next Republican primary for president, which one of the following candidates would you vote for? (IF "NOT SURE," ASK:) Well, which way do you lean?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>9/98</u>	
George W. Bush.....	59	61	48	53	36	52	41	[169-170]
Elizabeth Dole.....	11	11	19	18	26	11	10	
Pat Buchanan.....	5	4	5	4	4	4	4	
Dan Quayle.....	5	5	4	7	8	7	8	
Steve Forbes.....	4	6	6	6	4	6	7	
John McCain.....	3	4	6	2	5	NA	NA	
Orrin Hatch.....	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Lamar Alexander.....	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	
Gary Bauer.....	1	1	1	2	NA	NA	NA	
Jack Kemp.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	7	11	
Newt Gingrich.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	5	5	
None/other (VOL).....	2	2	4	3	1	4	7	
Not sure.....	7	5	6	4	7	7	5	
		<u>6/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>	<u>1/98</u>	<u>9/97</u>	<u>7/97</u>	<u>4/97</u>	
George W. Bush.....		34	40	26	24	20	24	
Elizabeth Dole.....		18	NA	14	14	15	16	
Pat Buchanan.....		NA	4	6	4	4	6	
Dan Quayle.....		9	14	6	7	10	9	
Steve Forbes.....		7	11	10	11	7	8	
John McCain.....		NA	5	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Orrin Hatch.....		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Lamar Alexander.....		2	3	4	2	5	3	
Gary Bauer.....		NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Jack Kemp.....		10	NA	16	14	14	17	
Newt Gingrich.....		5	5	5	4	5	NA	
None/other (VOL).....		6	8	NA	11	13	8	
Not sure.....		9	10	13	9	7	9	

NOTE: An "NA" indicates that the person was not included in the list of potential candidates for that particular survey. Potential candidates who do not appear on the current list but were included previously and received less than 5% of the vote are included in the percentage for "none/other."

(ASK ONLY OF REPUBLICANS IN Q.8)

9b. Which would you prefer in a presidential candidate -- someone whose first priority is cutting taxes or someone whose first priority is paying down the national debt?

First priority is cutting taxes.....	42	[171]
First priority is paying down the national debt.....	51	
Neither/other (VOL).....	3	
Not sure.....	4	

(ASK ONLY OF REPUBLICANS IN Q.8)

9c. What are the chances that you might support Al Gore in the next election for president -- do you think there is a good chance that you might support him, some chance, little chance, or no chance at all that you might support him?

Good chance.....	6	Skip to Q.11a	[172]
Some chance.....	9		
Little chance.....	16		
No chance at all.....	68		
Not sure.....	1		

(ASK ONLY OF DEMOCRATS IN Q.8)

10a. The candidates in the Democratic primary are Bill Bradley and Al Gore. For whom would you vote if the election were held today--Bill Bradley or Al Gore? **(IF "NOT SURE," ASK:)** Well, which way do you lean?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>		
Bill Bradley.....	24	17	23	20	13	[173]	
Al Gore.....	60	65	62	65	45		
Jesse Jackson.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	11		
Richard Gephardt.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	9		
John Kerry.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	4		
Bob Kerrey.....	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
None/other (VOL).....	5	4	5	5	6		
Not sure.....	11	14	10	10	12		
		<u>12/98</u>	<u>9/98</u>	<u>1/98</u>	<u>9/97</u>	<u>7/97</u>	<u>4/97</u>
Bill Bradley.....		12	12	14	13	11	9
Al Gore.....		49	51	45	47	52	56
Jesse Jackson.....		11	NA	NA	9	9	8
Richard Gephardt.....		7	12	8	7	8	6
John Kerry.....		2	3	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bob Kerrey.....		3	4	4	5	4	4
None/other (VOL).....		7	4	NA	5	7	11
Not sure.....		9	14	29	14	9	6

NOTE: An "NA" indicates that the person was not included in the list of potential candidates for that particular survey. Potential candidates who do not appear on the current list but were included previously and received less than 5% of the vote are included in the percentage for "none/other."

(ASK ONLY OF DEMOCRATS IN Q.8)

10b. Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the choices for the Democratic presidential nomination?

Satisfied with choices.....	58	[174]
Dissatisfied with choices.....	33	
Not sure.....	9	

(ASK ONLY OF DEMOCRATS IN Q.8)

10c. How much would you say you know about Bill Bradley and what he stands for -- a lot, a fair amount, just some, or very little?

Know a lot.....	2	[175]
Know a fair amount.....	19	
Know just some.....	20	
Know very little.....	57	
Not sure.....	2	

(ASK ONLY OF DEMOCRATS IN Q.8)

10d. As you may know, Bill Bradley is the only candidate challenging Al Gore for the Democratic nomination for president in the year 2000. Please tell me which of the following statements comes closer to your point of view about this situation.

Statement A: Bill Bradley's candidacy is a good thing for the Democratic Party, because it will create a healthy debate within the party and because it gives Democrats a choice.

Statement B: Bill Bradley's candidacy is a bad thing for the Democratic Party, because it will create a split and divide the party for the general election.

Statement A/Bradley candidacy is good for Democratic Party.....	65	[176]
Statement B/Bradley candidacy is bad for Democratic Party.....	21	
Some of both (VOL).....	3	
Not sure.....	11	

(ASK ONLY OF DEMOCRATS IN Q.8)

10e. What are the chances that you might support George W. Bush in the next election for president -- do you think there is a good chance that you might support him, some chance, little chance, or no chance at all that you might support him?

Good chance.....	10	[177]
Some chance.....	23	
Little chance.....	21	
No chance at all.....	43	
Not sure.....	3	

Now, I'm going to ask you a few questions about the next presidential election . . .

11a. If the next election for president were held today, and Al Gore were running as the Democratic candidate and George W. Bush were the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>12/98</u>	<u>10/98+</u>	
Al Gore.....	37	36	35	34	40	40	[178]
George W. Bush.....	50	51	53	52	50	48	
Neither/other (VOL).....	5	4	5	4	5	5	
Not sure.....	8	9	7	10	5	7	
			<u>9/98</u>	<u>4/98</u>	<u>9/97</u>	<u>7/97</u>	
			39	41	45	45	
			49	44	39	39	
			5	5	8	8	
			7	10	8	8	

+ Asked only of registered voters

11b. If the next election for president were held today, and Bill Bradley were running as the Democratic candidate and George W. Bush were the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

Bill Bradley.....	31	[179]
George W. Bush.....	49	
Neither/other (VOL).....	5	
Not sure.....	15	

11c. If the next election for president were held today, with Al Gore running as the Democratic candidate, George W. Bush running as the Republican candidate, and Jesse Ventura running as the Reform Party candidate, for whom would you vote?

Al Gore.....	32	[180]
George W. Bush.....	44	
Jesse Ventura.....	12	
None/other (VOL).....	4	

Not sure..... 8

- 11d. If the next election for president were held today, and Al Gore were running as the Democratic candidate and Elizabeth Dole were the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>6/99</u>	<u>4/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	<u>1/99</u>	
Al Gore.....	43	40	40	39	38	[208]
Elizabeth Dole.....	42	43	45	48	47	
Neither/other (VOL).....	7	10	7	7	8	
Not sure.....	8	7	8	6	7	

- 11e. If the next election for president were held today, and Al Gore were running as the Democratic candidate and Steve Forbes were the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote? **

Al Gore.....	49	[209]
Steve Forbes.....	31	
Neither/other (VOL).....	9	
Not sure.....	11	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

- 11f. If the next election for president were held today, and Al Gore were running as the Democratic candidate and John McCain were the Republican candidate, for whom would you vote? *

Al Gore.....	45	[210]
John McCain.....	28	
Neither/other (VOL).....	9	
Not sure.....	18	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

12. If there were a significant third political party established for the 2000 presidential election, separate from the Republican and Democratic parties, how likely would you be to support its candidate--almost certain, very likely, about 50-50, less than 50-50, or not likely?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>9/95¹</u>	
Almost certain.....	4	5	[211]
Very likely.....	7	7	
About 50-50.....	30	37	
Less than 50-50.....	13	12	
Not likely.....	31	20	
Depends (VOL).....	12	16	
Not sure.....	3	3	

¹ In September 1995, the question was asked about the 1996 presidential election

- 13a. Which do you prefer in a presidential candidate -- someone who will take an approach similar to that of Bill Clinton or someone who will take an approach different from that of Bill Clinton? *

Approach similar to Clinton's.....	44	[212]
Approach different from Clinton's.....	45	
Some of both/depends on issue (VOL)...	8	
Not sure.....	3	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

- 13b. If elected president, do you feel that Al Gore would continue President Clinton's policies and agenda, or do you think that Al Gore would pursue his own policies and agenda? *

Al Gore would continue Clinton's policies and agenda...	33	[213]
Al Gore would pursue own policies and agenda.....	49	
Some of both (VOL).....	12	
Not sure.....	6	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

- 14a. As you may know, George W. Bush has raised more than thirty-seven million dollars for his presidential campaign. Do you think that George W. Bush's fund-raising total is impressive and a sign of broad-based support, or do you think that George W. Bush's fund-raising total is excessive and a sign of what's wrong with politics today?

Fund-raising is impressive and a sign of broad-based support.....	29	[214]
Fund-raising is excessive and a sign of what's wrong with politics. .	56	
Some of both (VOL).....	6	
Not sure.....	9	

- 14b. Regardless of how you may be voting, do you think that **(READ NAME)** will be elected president, will NOT be elected president, or do you not have an opinion either way?

	Will Be Elected <u>President</u>	Will NOT Be Elected <u>President</u>	No Opinion Either <u>Way</u>	Not <u>Sure</u>	
Al Gore.....	19	48	27	6	[215]
George W. Bush.....	44	18	32	6	[216]

Changing topics . . .

- 15a. As you may know, Hillary Rodham Clinton is planning on running for the U.S. Senate from the state of New York. If she decided to campaign full time in New York and reduce her duties as First Lady, would this bother you or not? (IF "YES," ASK:) Would this bother you a lot, some, or just a little? **

<u>Would Bother</u>		
A lot.....	12	[217]
Some.....	5	
Just a little.....	3	
Not sure how much.....	1	
<u>Would Not Bother</u>	77	
<u>Not Sure If Would Bother</u>	2	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

- 15b. Are you concerned that President Clinton might make policy decisions designed to help Hillary Rodham Clinton in her campaign for the U.S. Senate, or is this not really a concern of yours? **

Concerned.....	26	[218]
Not really a concern.....	71	
Not sure.....	3	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

Turning to a different topic . . .

- 16a. Do you believe that the U.S. government will or will not actually have a budget surplus in the next few years?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>3/99</u>	[219]
Will have a surplus.....	44	43	
Will not have a surplus.....	43	47	
Not sure.....	13	10	

- 16b. There is general agreement in Washington that there will be a substantial federal budget surplus over the next five to ten years. The Republicans and Democrats in Congress have agreed to set aside about two-thirds of the money for Social Security and Medicare. Which one of the following statements better describes what you think should be done with the rest of the budget surplus?

Statement A: There are many unmet needs in the country that the federal government should address, including education, health care, and national defense, and most of the money should go toward meeting those needs.

Statement B: The federal government already devotes enough money to meeting the needs of the country, and most of the money should be returned to the taxpayers in the form of tax cuts.

Use the budget surplus for unmet needs.....	55	[220]
Use the budget surplus for tax cuts.....	34	
Some of both (VOL).....	5	
Neither (VOL).....	4	
Not sure.....	2	

- 16c. As you may know, some experts think that the federal government will have a surplus of funds in the next few years. If there were a budget surplus this year, for which one of the following would you like to see the surplus funds used?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

Increasing spending on social programs such as education.....	24	[221]
Paying down the national debt.....	22	
Increasing spending on Medicare to provide a prescription drug benefit.....	22	
Lowering taxes.....	20	
Increasing spending on national defense.....	7	
All (VOL).....	3	
None/other (VOL).....	1	
Not sure.....	1	

- 17a. If there were going to be a tax cut in the next year, which of the following would be your priority for a tax cut? *

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE

A tax cut for moderate- and low-income Americans.....	34	[222]
A tax cut for all Americans.....	31	
Eliminating the marriage penalty, which would cut taxes for married couples.....	17	
A capital gains tax cut on stock and real estate sales.....	7	
An inheritance and estate tax cut.....	4	
Combination (VOL).....	5	
None of these (VOL).....	-	
Not sure.....	2	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

- 17b. If Congress and the President cut taxes this year, which of these do you think is the better approach -- an across-the-board cut in income tax rates for all taxpayers, OR targeted tax cuts for specific types of people, such as tax cuts to encourage savings and to afford health insurance?

	<u>7/99**</u>	<u>4/97</u>	<u>12/96</u>	
Across-the-board cut in income tax rates.....	49	45	45	[223]
Targeted tax cuts.....	43	46	46	
Both equal (VOL).....	3	2	3	
Neither (VOL).....	1	3	2	
Not sure.....	4	4	4	

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

Now I'd like to ask you a few questions about health care . . .

- 18a. Are you currently covered by health insurance? (IF "YES," ASK:) Are you a member of an HMO--a health maintenance organization--or a similar managed care health plan?

Have health insurance/member of HMO.....	43	CONTINUE	[224]
Have health insurance/NOT a member of an HMO..	38	Skip to Q.18c	
Not currently covered by health insurance.....	16	Skip to Q.19	
Not sure.....	3		

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHO SAY THEY BELONG TO AN HMO IN Q.18a)

- 18b. How satisfied are you with the health care coverage provided by your HMO or health maintenance organization -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

Very satisfied.....	31		[225]
Somewhat satisfied.....	42	Skip to	
Somewhat dissatisfied.....	11	Q.19	
Very dissatisfied.....	11		
Not sure.....	5		

(ASK ONLY OF RESPONDENTS WHOSE HEALTH INSURANCE IS NOT PROVIDED BY AN HMO IN Q.18a)

- 18c. How satisfied are you with your health care coverage -- very satisfied, somewhat satisfied, somewhat dissatisfied, or very dissatisfied?

Very satisfied.....	45	[226]
Somewhat satisfied.....	40	
Somewhat dissatisfied.....	6	
Very dissatisfied.....	6	
Not sure.....	3	

19. When it comes to dealing with the issue of reforming HMOs and other managed care plans, which party do you think would do a better job--the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, both about the same, or neither?

	<u>7/99</u>	<u>7/98</u>	
The Democrats.....	28	28	[227]
The Republicans.....	14	16	
Both about the same.....	30	37	
Neither.....	19	14	
Not sure.....	9	5	

- 20a. As you may know, the Senate recently passed a bill that reforms HMOs and gives patients certain protections in dealing with their HMOs. How satisfied are you with this bill -- are you mainly satisfied, partly satisfied, partly dissatisfied, mainly dissatisfied, or don't you know enough to say either way?

Mainly satisfied.....	8	[228]
Partly satisfied.....	22	
Partly dissatisfied.....	9	
Mainly dissatisfied.....	9	
Don't know enough to say.....	49	
Not sure.....	3	

- 20b. I'm going to tell you about the Democratic and Republican proposals to reform HMOs, and then get your reaction.

The Republican proposal expands patients' rights by guaranteeing some people easier access to emergency room care and medical specialists, providing the ability to appeal decisions that an HMO makes on medical care to an HMO-selected group of physicians, and allowing women to have a gynecologist as their primary doctor, although most of these protections apply only to the forty-eight million Americans in health plans NOT regulated by the states.

The Democrats' proposal has patient protections similar to that of the Republican proposal, but it has additional protections, such as giving patients the right to sue HMOs for malpractice, allowing appeals to be heard by independent physicians, and giving doctors the final say on treatment decisions, while applying to ALL one hundred and sixty-one million Americans with private health insurance.

Having heard this information, which proposal do you prefer -- the Republican proposal or the Democratic proposal?

Prefer Republican proposal.....	23	[229]
Prefer Democratic proposal.....	65	
Neither (VOL).....	5	
Not sure.....	7	

- 20c. Democrats say that patients should have the right to sue their HMOs for improper care, to increase accountability and to prevent HMOs from looking only at costs when making medical care decisions. Republicans say that giving patients the right to sue their HMOs for improper care would just raise the cost of health insurance, and the only people who might benefit from the right to sue would be trial lawyers. With whom do you agree more -- the Democrats who think that there should be a right to sue HMOs or the Republicans who think that there should not be a right to sue HMOs?

Agree with Democrats/there should be a right to sue.....	56	[230]
Agree with Republicans/there should not be a right to sue...	32	
Depends (VOL).....	5	
Not sure.....	7	

Moving now to some other subjects . . .

21. Which do you think would be more effective in reducing gun violence -- passing new restrictions on the sale of firearms, particularly handguns, or ensuring stricter enforcement of existing laws on gun sales and ownership?

New restrictions on the sales of firearms.....	26	[231]
Stricter enforcement of existing laws.....	57	
Some of both (VOL).....	8	
Neither (VOL).....	7	
Not sure.....	2	

22. From what you know about global climate change or global warming, which of the following statements comes closest to your opinion? *

Global climate change has been established as a serious problem, and immediate action is necessary.....	23	[232]
There is enough evidence that climate change is taking place and some action should be taken.....	28	
We don't know enough about global climate change, and more research is necessary before we take any actions.....	32	
Concern about global climate change is unwarranted.....	11	
Not sure.....	6	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

23. How important are relations with **(READ ITEM)** to the U.S. national interest -- extremely important, fairly important, just somewhat important, or not important at all?

THIS TABLE HAS BEEN RANKED BY THE PERCENTAGE WHO SAY EXTREMELY OR FAIRLY IMPORTANT

	Extremely Important	Fairly Important	Just Somewhat Important	Not Important At All	Not Sure	
Canada **.....	48	26	18	4	4	[241]
Japan *.....	47	24	19	5	5	[234]
Russia *.....	43	26	21	6	4	[233]
China **.....	41	27	19	9	4	[242]
The European Union **.....	39	28	20	5	8	[239]
Israel **.....	33	26	25	9	7	[243]
Mexico **.....	32	27	25	11	5	[240]
South Africa *.....	14	28	39	12	7	[235]
India *.....	15	24	38	14	9	[237]
Kosovo *.....	15	21	37	21	6	[238]
Brazil *.....	11	24	41	11	13	[236]

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

** Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

On another subject . . .

- 24a. When you think back to the high and low points of his term in office, do you think, on the whole, that it was good for America or bad for America that Richard Nixon served as president?

	7/99	6/94	5/94	
Good for America.....	52	66	73	[244]
Bad for America.....	23	20	16	
Some of both (VOL).....	9	6	4	
Neither (VOL).....	1	1	1	
Not sure.....	15	7	6	

- 24b. As you may know, this year is the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Watergate scandal that led to Richard Nixon resigning as president. Would you say that Watergate has had a positive impact or a negative impact on the way that you think about politicians and elections today, or has it had no effect on the way you think about politicians and elections today?

Positive impact.....	19	[245]
Negative impact.....	43	
No effect.....	34	
Not sure.....	4	

- 24c. Do you think that Watergate was worse than other political scandals in the past twenty-five years, or do you think that there have been other political scandals that were just as bad?

Watergate worse than other scandals.....	18	[246]
Other political scandals just as bad.....	76	
Depends (VOL).....	2	
Not sure.....	4	

Getting near the end of the survey . . .

- 25a. Would you like to see a member of the Kennedy family become president, or not? *

Would like to see a member of the Kennedy family become president.....	27	[247]
Would not like to see a member of the Kennedy family become president.....	47	
Depends (VOL).....	13	
Not sure.....	13	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM A).

- 25b. Do you think that there is a curse on the Kennedy family, or not? **

There is a curse on Kennedy family.....	22	[248]
There is not a curse on Kennedy family.....	72	
Not sure.....	6	

* Asked of one-half the respondents (FORM B).

26. How much do you worry about potential problems with your bank account as a result of the so-called Y2K computer problem expected at the end of this year -- a great deal, a fair amount, just some, or not at all?

Worry a great deal.....	7	[249]
Worry a fair amount.....	10	
Worry just some.....	23	
Do not worry at all.....	58	
Not sure.....	2	

FACTUALS: Now I am going to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

F1. How old are you? **(IF REFUSED, ASK:)** Well, would you tell me which age group you belong to?

18-24.....	11	[257-258]
25-29.....	9	
30-34.....	9	
35-39.....	10	
40-44.....	11	
45-49.....	10	
50-54.....	8	
55-59.....	6	
60-64.....	7	
65 and over.....	17	
Refused.....	2	

F2. What is the last grade you completed in school?

Grade school.....	1	[259-260]
Some high school.....	6	
High school graduate.....	28	
Some college, no degree.....	20	
Vocational training/2-year college.....	9	
4-year college/bachelor's degree.....	18	
Some postgraduate work, no degree.....	3	
2-3 years postgraduate work/master's degree...	10	
Doctoral/law degree.....	3	
Not sure/refused.....	2	

F3. Are you currently employed?

(IF CURRENTLY EMPLOYED:) What type of work do you do?

(IF NOT CURRENTLY EMPLOYED:) Are you a student, a homemaker, retired, or unemployed and looking for work?

<u>Currently Employed</u>		
Professional/ manager.....	26	[261]
White collar worker.....	21	
Blue collar worker.....	16	
Farmer, rancher.....	-	
<u>Not Currently Employed</u>		
Student.....	3	
Homemaker.....	6	
Retired.....	21	
Unemployed, looking for work.....	4	
Other.....	-	
Not sure.....	3	

F4. In politics today, do you generally consider yourself to be very liberal, somewhat liberal, moderate, somewhat conservative, very conservative, or do you think that your views cannot really be described in those terms?

Very liberal.....	8	[269]
Somewhat liberal.....	18	
Moderate.....	24	
Somewhat conservative.....	22	
Very conservative.....	10	
Views cannot be described in those terms.....	13	
Not sure.....	5	

F5. Are you currently registered to vote in the precinct or election district in which you now live, or haven't you had a chance to register yet?

Registered.....	84	[270]
Not registered.....	13	
Not sure.....	3	

F6. Are you currently single and never married, married, separated, widowed, or divorced?

Single.....	24	[271]
Married.....	56	
Separated.....	1	
Widowed.....	8	
Divorced.....	9	
Other (VOL).....	-	
Not sure/refused.....	2	

F7. In what religion were you brought up?

Protestant.....	49	CONTINUE	[272]
Catholic.....	28		
Jewish.....	2		
Other.....	14	Skip to Q.F9	
None.....	4		
Not sure/refused.....	3		

(ASK ONLY OF PROTESTANTS IN Q.F7.)

F8. Would you describe yourself as either a fundamentalist or an evangelical Christian, or would you not describe yourself that way?

Fundamentalist/evangelical.....	15	[273]
Neither fundamentalist nor evangelical.....	31	
Not sure.....	3	
Non-Protestants (Q.F7).....	51	

F9. Are you a member of a labor union? **(IF "NO," ASK:)** Is anyone else in this household a member of a labor union?

Labor union member.....	10	[274]
Labor union household.....	7	
Nonunion household.....	80	
Not sure.....	3	

F10. Are you from a Hispanic or Spanish-speaking background? **(IF "NO," ASK:)** What is your race--white, black, Asian, or something else?

Hispanic.....	6	[275]
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White.....	78
Black.....	10
Asian.....	1
Other.....	2
Not sure/refused.....	3

F11. If you added together the yearly income of all the members of your family who were living at home last year, would the total be less than \$10,000, between \$10,000 and \$20,000, between \$20,000 and \$30,000, between \$30,000 and \$40,000, between \$40,000 and \$50,000, between \$50,000 and \$75,000, between \$75,000 and \$100,000, or would the total be more than that?

Less than \$10,000.....	4	[276]
Between \$10,000 and \$20,000.....	8	
Between \$20,000 and \$30,000.....	10	
Between \$30,000 and \$40,000.....	12	
Between \$40,000 and \$50,000.....	12	
Between \$50,000 and \$75,000.....	14	
Between \$75,000 and \$100,000.....	11	
More than \$100,000.....	11	
Not sure/refused.....	18	